

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, lines 17 to 28 with the following new paragraph:

Cytokine responsiveness may be identified using an assay described in Example 2. Thus, blood is obtained from a subject, a human or veterinary animal; peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCB) are isolated and incubated with individual flavanols and procyanidins. The level of secreted cytokines, for example TGF- β 1, is measured in the culture supernatant prior to, and subsequent to, the addition of flavanols and procyanidins. Cytokine responsiveness may be identified using a series of separately tested individual flavanols and procyanidins, for example, monomers, and dimers through decamers, as shown in Example 2, or alternatively, using a mixture of flavanols and procyanidins in a single test sample. A suitable mixture is a cocoa extract comprising flavanols and procyanidin oligomers 2-18, for example monomers and oligomers 2-10. Other assays suitable for measuring the effect of flavanols and procyanidins on cytokine secretion and/or levels in a body sample may also be used.